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Coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report has been prepared pursuant to paragraph 6 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/22. It provides a description of the activities undertaken by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme in cooperation with other agencies and organizations of the United Nations system in the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda at the global, regional and national levels.

The report concludes with six recommendations by which Member States are called upon:

(a) To give appropriate consideration to the role of urbanization in sustainable development in their national development plans in order to ensure coordinated implementation of sectoral policies within cities and urban settlements in general;

(b) To formulate and implement urban planning policies that enhance economic productivity and equity, to implement economic empowerment programmes that create opportunities, with special reference to young people and women, and to adopt innovative tools for generating additional resources for local authorities in addressing urban planning matters, including through land and property value sharing;

(c) To apply more systematically urban planning methods, including participatory processes, adapted to the needs of incremental urbanization standards and compact, better integrated and connected urban development patterns;

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(d) To use planned city extension methodologies to guide the sustainable development of cities experiencing rapid urban growth, to prevent slum proliferation, enhance access to basic urban services, support inclusive housing, enhance job opportunities and create a safe and healthy living environment;

(e) To facilitate the inclusion of all relevant stakeholders, including local authorities, the private sector and non-governmental organizations, in the preparatory process for the third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development at the national level, including in the preparation of national reports.

I. Introduction

1. The present report has been prepared pursuant to paragraph 6 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/22.

2. During the reporting period, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) continued to broaden its cooperation with United Nations system organizations and agencies. Among the key vehicles for cooperation were the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (including its three pillars of the United Nations Development Group, the High-level Committee on Programmes and the High-level Committee on Management), the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs, the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee. As in previous years, UN-Habitat provided technical input to reports of the Secretary-General and other relevant United Nations system-wide documents, including those relating to the post-2015 development agenda and the sustainable development goals.

3. Outside the United Nations system, UN-Habitat continued to strengthen its relations with Habitat Agenda partners, including civil society groups, the private sector, professional bodies and research and training institutions.

II. Activities at the global level

4. Activities at the global level where UN-Habitat worked with numerous United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, Governments and a wide range of partners included preparations for the third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), the World Urban Campaign, the preparation of *Planning and Design for Sustainable Urban Mobility: Global Report on Human Settlements 2013*, consultations on the post-2015 development agenda and the sustainable development goals and cooperation with international financial institutions and the International Aid Transparency Initiative.

A. Habitat III preparatory activities

5. The General Assembly, by its resolution 66/207, decided to convene Habitat III in 2016 to reinvigorate the global commitment to sustainable urbanization through a new urban agenda. The Assembly decided that the preparatory process should make use of planned regional and international meetings in order to reduce costs.

6. The Governing Council of UN-Habitat, by its resolution 24/14, requested the Secretary-General of the Conference to, among other things, consider possible contributions from United Nations system organizations and Habitat Agenda partners to the preparatory process. The Council requested member States to establish or strengthen inclusive national Habitat committees and to prepare Habitat III national reports using those committees. The Council requested the Secretary-General of the Conference to prepare, with the support of the United Nations system, regional and global reports based on the national reports and to provide support to member States in the preparation of their national reports.

7. During the reporting period, UN-Habitat prepared proposals on the contribution of the United Nations system and Habitat Agenda partners to the

preparatory process. They were endorsed at an inter-agency meeting held on 3 July 2013 in Geneva, at which an inter-agency coordination committee was established. That committee met again on 27 November 2013 in New York.

8. At the twenty-seventh session of the High-level Committee on Programmes, held in Santiago on 17 and 18 March 2014, UN-Habitat successfully proposed the introduction of an agenda item on a new United Nations urban agenda. Representatives of the following United Nations system organizations supported the creation of a working group of the Committee on that subject and many volunteered to be members of it: Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, World Food Programme, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), Universal Postal Union, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Meteorological Organization, World Tourism Organization, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

9. On the basis of the report of that working group, it is expected that the Committee will make policy recommendations on a new United Nations urban agenda for consideration by the Chief Executives Board. It is also envisaged that those recommendations, after approval by the Board, will constitute the formal input of the United Nations system organizations to the preparatory process.

10. UN-Habitat also prepared a draft think piece, which was presented to the Committee of Permanent Representatives and distributed to all United Nations system organizations for comments and further input. UN-Habitat developed draft guidelines for the preparation of Habitat III national reports, which benefitted from the input of member States, Habitat Agenda partners and United Nations system organizations, including through an e-consultation, and were distributed to all Governments at the end of November 2013. The guidelines, together with an earlier guide on the establishment or strengthening of national Habitat committees distributed to all Governments in January 2013, enabled the preparation of national reports to begin.

B. World Urban Campaign

11. Since its launch in March 2010 at the fifth session of the World Urban Forum, the World Urban Campaign has evolved from a knowledge-sharing network into a think tank and has been considerably strengthened, in terms of both legitimacy and the number of partners engaged. It has become a more structured platform dedicated to advocacy and knowledge-sharing goals. The Campaign currently includes 75 partners and members, among which feature major constituencies and umbrella organizations with large global outreach. Its partners are instrumental for UN-Habitat in promoting urbanization issues and solutions and act as multipliers in terms of dissemination of key messages.

12. Since the sixth session of the World Urban Forum, held in Naples, Italy, in September 2012, and the launch of the "Manifesto for cities: the urban future we want", the Campaign has engaged in the Habitat III preparatory process. Partners have recognized the strategic importance of Habitat III to the elevation of the urban agenda globally. A working group on Habitat III, established by the Campaign steering committee in September 2012, met in April and September 2013 to reflect on past conferences, initiate a strategy and draft a position on the city we need (the vision of a city for the twenty-first century) as a contribution by partners to the Conference.

13. During the reporting period, the Campaign secretariat focused its efforts on communication and outreach through the strengthening of several initiatives, in particular the outreach campaign called "I'm a city changer" as a communication platform and mobilization tool for the Conference. The new Campaign website provides space for all partners to feature events, urban solutions, resources and tools. Toolkits and guides for city and national urban campaigns in support of the preparatory process were prepared in several official languages. Thematic toolkits on gender and urban safety were also prepared and disseminated through the Global Network on Safer Cities and partners of the Advisory Group on Gender Issues.

C. *Global Report on Human Settlements 2013*

14. The main launch of the *Global Report on Human Settlements 2013: Planning and Design for Sustainable Urban Mobility* was held on 7 October 2013, during the World Habitat Day 2013 celebrations in Medellín, Colombia. Launches were also held in numerous other locations. The report was prepared on the basis of input from regional, thematic and case studies (most of which have been published electronically) written by more than 150 experts from all regions, many of whom also reviewed early drafts of the report.

15. Based on extensive evidence, it is argued in the report that the traditional approach to addressing the transport problems of cities, i.e. to build more infrastructure for cars, is at best only a temporary solution. In fact, many of the transport challenges faced by urban transport systems — such as greenhouse-gas emissions, noise and air pollution and road traffic accidents — are not necessarily addressed by the construction of new infrastructure.

16. Thus, it is argued that the development of sustainable urban transport systems requires a conceptual leap. The purpose of "transportation" and "mobility" is to gain access to destinations, activities, services and goods, meaning that "access" is the ultimate objective of transportation. Consequently, urban planning and design should focus on how to bring people and places together by creating cities that focus on accessibility, rather than simply increasing the length of urban transport infrastructure or increasing the movement of people or goods. Urban form and the functionality of the city are therefore a major focus of the report, in which the importance of integrated land-use and transport planning is highlighted. The report provides a series of policy recommendations on how to plan and design sustainable urban mobility systems.

D. Post-2015 development agenda and sustainable development goals

17. During the reporting period, UN-Habitat actively participated in the post-2015 development agenda and the sustainable development goals processes in order to provide adequate information to Governments, United Nations system organizations and other stakeholders on the role of urbanization in sustainable development, with a view to ensuring that sustainable urbanization is adequately reflected in both processes.

18. UN-Habitat continued to participate in the work of the United Nations System Task Team on the Post-2015 United Nations Development Agenda and its working group on monitoring and indicators. UN Habitat also co-led, with UNFPA, a thematic consultation on population dynamics, part of 11 thematic consultations organized by the Millennium Development Goals Task Force. In addition, it contributed to five other thematic consultations relevant to its mandate (those on environmental sustainability, governance, energy, water and inequalities).

19. UN-Habitat provided input on sustainable urbanization to the work of the High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. It participated in the technical support team of the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals. In particular, it contributed significantly to the seventh session of the Open Working Group, held from 6 to 10 January 2014, including by co-drafting the related issues brief on sustainable cities and human settlements. That effort was co-led by UN-Habitat and UNEP, with the participation of 12 other programmes, funds, agencies and regional commissions, including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, IFAD, ILO, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, UN-Women, the World Health Organization, the World Meteorological Organization and the World Bank.

20. UN-Habitat also participated in the activities of the Sustainable Cities Thematic Group of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, the Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments, part of United Cities and Local Governments, and the Communitas Coalition for Sustainable Cities and Regions.

21. In addition, UN-Habitat worked, and will continue to work, with Governments to explain the importance of sustainable urbanization to national development in the context of discussions on the post-2015 development agenda and the sustainable development goals, as well as national preparations for Habitat III.

22. UN-Habitat and UNDP, the United Nations Capital Development Fund, ILO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and UNICEF collaborated closely within the framework of the Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments. The entity produced a series of position papers to contribute to the post-2015 process and ensured the participation of mayors, governors and local elected officials in the presentation of the conclusions of the High-level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda in May 2013 and in other events.

23. As Vice-Chair of UN-Water, UN-Habitat contributed to the sustainable development goals consultation process and to the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda with regard to water and sanitation. It contributed to the

formulation of a set of potential targets and indicators to support a possible sustainable development goal on water. The proposed goal reflects a broader approach than the Millennium Development Goals and aims to incorporate not only access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation, but also other critical elements such as water resources management, wastewater management, governance and water-related disasters.

24. Partly as a result of UN-Habitat efforts, combined with the efforts of other organizations and Habitat Agenda partners, there is increasing recognition of the contribution of urbanization to sustainable development. The High-level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, in its report, *A New Global Partnership: Eradicate Poverty and Transform Economies through Sustainable Development*, published in May 2013, emphasized that cities were where the battle for sustainable development would be won or lost and also recognized the key role of local authorities. The Panel considered cities to be cross-cutting and the set of illustrative goals and targets contained in the report included various urban-related targets scattered across several goals.

25. In his report entitled "A life of dignity for all: accelerating progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and advancing the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015" (A/68/202), the Secretary-General recognized meeting the challenges of urbanization as 1 of 14 key transformative and mutually reinforcing actions that applied to all countries that would be required to bring to life the vision of the development agenda beyond 2015 (paras. 82 and 94). He also recognized that, with rapid urbanization and population growth, the number of slum dwellers was on the rise (para. 29).

26. In March 2013, the Global Task Force on Local and Regional Governments suggested recognition of the role of local and regional governments, in addition to eight objectives, including one on urban planning and design, territorial cohesion and climate change resilience.

27. In June 2013, the Sustainable Development Solutions Network recommended a stand-alone goal on empowering inclusive, productive and resilient cities, in addition to three targets. In September 2013, its Sustainable Cities Thematic Group, supported by UN-Habitat, United Cities and Local Governments, the Cities Alliance, Local Governments for Sustainability and Metropolis, prepared a paper on why the world needs an urban sustainable development goal. The Network also launched a campaign for such a goal, using the hashtag #UrbanSDG, attracting more than 200 local, national and international signatories.

28. In the 2013 Bonn Declaration of Mayors, the Mayors Adaptation Forum urged nations to adopt a universal sustainable development goal for cities. The Mayor of Rio de Janeiro and Chair of the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, Eduardo Paes, also endorsed an urban sustainable development goal, stating that the sustainable development goals would be incomplete without it.

29. The Communitas Coalition for Sustainable Cities and Regions promoted, and continues to promote, the development of an urban goal with targets relating to the economic, social, environmental, spatial and cultural dimensions of sustainable development.

30. At the seventh session of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, which focused on sustainable cities and human settlements and

sustainable transport, among other topics, there was significant support by Member States for the inclusion of urbanization in the sustainable development goals, as indicated by the Co-Chairs in their summary of the session. In late February 2014, the issue of sustainable cities and human settlements was included among the 19 focus areas identified by the Co-Chairs as a basis for discussions on the formulation of the sustainable development goals.

E. Cooperation with international financial institutions

31. During the reporting period, the World Bank and UN-Habitat collaborated to support the relocation of the Cities Alliance from Washington, D.C., to Brussels, and the move to a new hosting arrangement with UNOPS.

32. UN-Habitat collaborated with the World Bank Institute on evaluating national slum upgrading policies in 15 countries and participated in workshops to review progress in reporting and to suggest lessons learned for a forthcoming joint publication with the German Agency for International Cooperation, the Inter-American Development Bank and the Cities Alliance.

33. UN-Habitat also collaborated with the Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies on the global capacity development agenda by exploring opportunities for strengthening the capacity of cities and local governments to better meet challenges in the period leading up to Habitat III.

34. Furthermore, UN-Habitat continued to be a member of the World Bank advisory group on the land governance assessment framework and jointly supported that process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. UN-Habitat, through the Global Land Tool Network, continued to implement joint research activities with the Bank on land tenure and land governance and co-organized events and initiatives for the annual Bank conference on land and poverty.

35. Collaboration with the World Bank in the area of climate change also continued. A Bank representative participated in a capacity-building event for local officials in Africa organized by the Cities and Climate Change Initiative and was appointed to the external advisory committee of the Initiative. UN-Habitat participated in events under the Bank's Low-Carbon Livable Cities Initiative and fielded representatives to participate in a Bank-led workshop on creditworthiness for local officials and an expert group meeting on a possible city climate planner certification programme.

F. International Aid Transparency Initiative

36. After UN-Habitat joined the International Aid Transparency Initiative in 2012, it committed itself to publishing its work, including financial and substantive information about its project portfolio, on a website (open.unhabitat.org). UN-Habitat continued to make progress in this area in 2013, reporting 231 projects using the Initiative standard, compared with 100 in 2012.

37. As one of the first United Nations organizations to publish information in this way, UN-Habitat has begun supporting other agencies in their transparency efforts. Together with UNDP and UNOPS, UN-Habitat organized two inter-agency transparency workshops, held in Geneva in March and September 2013, attended by

28 staff members from 13 agencies. The aim of the events was to work towards the establishment of a working group on transparency, which would provide an arena for agencies to meet and discuss transparency issues regularly. In addition, UN-Habitat organized longer transparency workshops with UNEP and UNESCO during the year. Enhancements under way include increasing the range of information published about each project and training of staff in order to enhance the quality of information published.

III. Activities at the regional level

38. At the regional level, UN-Habitat worked collaboratively with other United Nations system organizations to assist in the organization of, or contribute to, regional ministerial meetings on housing and urban development. The Programme also worked closely with several regional development banks to promote the implementation of the Habitat Agenda.

A. Regional ministerial conferences

39. The fifth session of the African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development was held from 25 to 28 February 2014 in N'Djamena. The theme of the session was "Case studies in financing human settlements in Africa: appropriate legislative frameworks and innovations in implementation". Other matters discussed included the urban agenda for Africa and its linkage with the African Union Agenda 2063, the outcome of a conference on strengthening partnerships for a new African urban agenda and progress in preparations for the seventh session of the World Urban Forum, the post-2015 development agenda and the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee for Habitat III.

40. The main outcome documents of the session were the N'Djamena Declaration and the N'Djamena Action Plan. Both documents outlined the key priorities of Africa in the area of cities and other human settlements, forming the continent's aligned input to the African urban agenda, the Habitat III preparatory process and the post-2015 development agenda. The priorities included:

(a) Access to affordable and decent housing, including housing finance and the ability to scale up successful initiatives;

(b) Delivery of infrastructure and basic services for human settlements, including sanitation and waste management;

(c) Slum prevention and upgrading;

(d) Urban and territorial planning and effective land tenure, use and management;

(e) Urban economy, including investment, employment, food security and financing infrastructure and basic services in human settlements;

(f) Link between urban and rural areas and the need to address issues relating to the entire continuum of human settlements, from villages and market towns to towns and cities;

(g) Normative work that develops tools that are specific to and suitable for local conditions in African habitation and urbanization for the coming 20 years, including attention to materials, the environment and sociocultural factors;

(h) Scaling-up of successful initiatives on urban safety and disaster responsiveness and risk mitigation.

41. The twenty-second General Assembly of Ministers and High-level Authorities on Housing and Urbanization in Latin America and the Caribbean was held in Santiago from 30 September to 2 October 2013, with 13 Governments represented. The entity is responsible for the promotion of intergovernmental coordination and cooperation among Latin American and Caribbean countries in all areas relating to sustainable development in human settlements.

42. The main result of the meeting was a commitment to promoting the development of urban policies that are inclusive of populations of informal settlements, guaranteeing access to urban infrastructure, community services and environmental sanitation, while also strengthening human and social capital.

43. The main outcome document was the Santiago Declaration, in which the participants, among other things, expressed their desire to participate actively in both the seventh session of the World Urban Forum and the Habitat III preparatory process and the Conference itself.

B. Regional development banks

44. UN-Habitat continued its dialogue with the Asian Development Bank. During the launch of *Planning and Design for Sustainable Urban Mobility: Global Report on Human Settlements 2013* at the Singapore International Transport Congress and Exhibition 2013, a meeting with the Vice-President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development of the Bank and the International Association of Public Transport was held, at which collaboration on urban mobility and the emerging priority area of urban drainage were highlighted. Specific action in those areas is now being developed through mutual collaboration. Building on previous collaboration with the Bank that resulted in the publication of a sanitation data book for Asia, UN-Habitat also participated in consultations on publishing an updated version of the data book for 2013.

45. The European Investment Bank and UN-Habitat collaborated on the design and implementation of a water and sanitation project in the towns of Mwanza, United Republic of Tanzania, and Kisumu, Kenya. With regard to the former, a loan agreement between the Bank and the Government was signed in December 2013, providing funding of €114 million.

46. The Bank also secured a technical assistance grant in the amount of €7 million from the European Union-Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund to fund a programme on training, capacity-building and institutional support for the implementation of the project in Mwanza. The grant includes an allocation of some €1.5 million to enable UN-Habitat to provide technical assistance and capacity-building for the implementation of the sanitation component of the project.

47. With regard to Kisumu, pre-investment studies continued with UN-Habitat support. New areas of collaboration are also being discussed between UN-Habitat

and the Bank, focusing on wastewater and urban drainage in Kigali and on energy efficiency in housing and urban mobility in East Africa. Given the expanding areas of collaboration with the Bank, the possibility of developing a memorandum of understanding between the two organizations is currently being explored.

48. A memorandum of understanding was signed by UN-Habitat and the Development Bank of Latin America during the reporting period to facilitate the implementation of a strategy on cities of the future. UN-Habitat also signed a contribution agreement to prepare a study on urban inequality in Latin American and Caribbean countries.

IV. Thematic activities at the national and subnational levels

49. During the reporting period, UN-Habitat cooperated with United Nations system organizations and other partners in implementing activities, including operational projects, at the national and subnational levels in the thematic areas of urban legislation, land and governance, urban planning and design, urban economy and municipal finance, urban basic services, risk reduction and rehabilitation, research and capacity development and gender mainstreaming and empowerment of women.

A. Urban legislation, land and governance

50. Collaboration with UNEP and the World Bank focused on analysis of how to strengthen the legal frameworks in environmental impact assessments, given their importance to urban development processes. As noted above, UN-Habitat is a member of the World Bank advisory group on the land governance assessment framework and the two organizations are collaborating in rolling out the framework at the country level. A set of global indicators on land and tenure security is being developed to inform the post-2015 development agenda.

51. UNICEF, UN-Women and UN-Habitat continued to implement the Safe and Sustainable Cities for All joint programme. Activities in 2013 focused on situation assessments and advocacy efforts, including at the city level. The following eight pilot cities have completed their safety audits and baseline assessments: greater Beirut, Dushanbe, metropolitan Manila, Marrakech (Morocco), Nairobi, Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), San Jose and Tegucigalpa.

52. By its resolution 24/6 on supporting action for the creation of safer cities, the Governing Council of UN-Habitat invited the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to set up an inter-agency task team to review and present proposals for complementing the Guidelines for Cooperation and Technical Assistance in the Field of Urban Crime Prevention of 1995 and the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime of 2002, with a view to establishing United Nations system-wide guidelines on safer cities. Subsequently, the Commission, at its twenty-second session, recommended to the Economic and Social Council the approval of a draft resolution, for adoption by the General Assembly, on the rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice in the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015, in which the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime would be requested

to provide substantive contributions to efforts to complement the development of such guidelines.

53. UN-Habitat, through the Global Land Tool Network, continued to support the Land Policy Initiative, a joint programme of the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank and the African Union Commission, in the implementation of the Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges in Africa, signed by Heads of State and Government in 2009.

54. In 2013, UN-Habitat formalized a new three-year collaboration with IFAD to develop and integrate pro-poor tools and approaches for securing land and natural resource rights in IFAD natural resources management programmes in selected countries in Eastern and Southern Africa.

55. UN-Habitat, through the Global Land Tool Network and the Cities Alliance, worked in Uganda on a set of activities aiming at providing security of tenure to slum dwellers through the use of the social tenure domain model, a pro-poor land tool developed by the Network. The Alliance co-funded the work and the collaboration is now expanding to additional countries. A land tenure initiative for Asia and the Pacific was launched in 2013 by the Network in collaboration with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

56. UN-Habitat also provided input to the work on tenure security of the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context. It was reflected in her report to the Human Rights Council (A/HRC/22/46) and her draft recommendations on security of tenure for the urban poor (September 2013).

B. Urban planning and design

57. High-level meetings between UNEP and UN-Habitat were held in March and November 2013 to take stock of the organizations' collaboration under the 2008-2013 partnership framework and to look ahead to future strengthened collaboration and joint delivery. The findings and recommendations of an independent review fed into a prioritization exercise that resulted in the adoption of three programme priorities: resilient, resource efficient cities, sustainable transport and mobility, and integrated waste management.

58. By its resolution 24/3, the Governing Council requested the Executive Director of UN-Habitat, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to initiate the elaboration of international guidelines on urban and territorial planning that would provide a global framework for improving policies, plans and designs for more compact, socially inclusive, sustainable, better integrated and connected cities and territories. The Council encouraged UN-Habitat to elaborate a set of agreed universal principles for urban and territorial planning at the city level and also elaborate a set of recommendations for central Governments, local authorities, civil society and experts, as well as other relevant stakeholders, to improve urban and territorial planning. During the reporting period, UN-Habitat launched consultations with relevant organizations, such as the United Nations Centre for Regional Development, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the World Bank, about the structure and content of the guidelines, encompassing all the above elements. The guidelines will be a strategic contribution of Member States

and partners to the formulation of the new urban agenda, which will be the outcome document of Habitat III.

59. UN-Habitat actively contributed to processes relating to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and led side events at the annual session of the Conference of the Parties, in addition to participating in the local government climate road map process (led by Local Governments for Sustainability), which provides input from local authorities to those negotiations. Progress was made towards integrating local authorities into a post-Kyoto Protocol climate regime. For example, local and subnational governments were formally recognized as governmental stakeholders at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties, held in Cancun, Mexico, in 2010, and during the nineteenth session, held in Warsaw in 2013, when the Convention held its first-ever Cities Day.

60. UN-Habitat, UNEP and the World Bank completed a joint work programme on supporting cities in addressing climate change challenges by enhancing joint work among members of the Cities Alliance. Some of the results included a joint methodology for integrating climate change into city development strategies and the development of a global protocol for community-scale greenhouse-gas emissions.

61. A regional knowledge platform on climate change and cities in Asia and the Pacific was established to support advocacy and capacity-building efforts through the Cities and Climate Change Initiative. A regional workshop was convened by UN-Habitat under that platform in collaboration with the UNDP Asia-Pacific Regional Centre, at which an issue brief on addressing urban poverty, inequality and vulnerability in a warming world was launched and formed the basis for discussions with municipal stakeholders.

62. In Zambia, a flood risk reduction project for Lusaka was prepared in 2013, jointly with UNDP. It will help the Lusaka City Council to formulate a resilience strategy using flood risk reduction as an entry point.

63. The UN-Habitat approach on planned city extensions was validated and endorsed at an expert group meeting held in Barcelona, Spain, in September 2013. Following a review of international best practice and city experiences, and in response to resolution 24/5 of the Governing Council, the experts, including representatives of the World Bank, agreed on a communiqué that consolidated consensus on basic principles and conditions for successful planned city extensions. Consequently, UN-Habitat achieved an important milestone in the refinement of its approach to planned city extensions as a key strategy for tackling urban growth, in particular for intermediate cities that face rapid population growth. Its approach was also enriched through input from the UNESCO and United Cities and Local Governments initiative on intermediate cities.

64. UN-Habitat supported the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in the organization of a high-level symposium on sustainable cities and sustainable urbanization in Yangzhou, China, in December 2013. The participants deliberated on the critical role of cities and urban areas as drivers of growth and prosperity and the significant challenges in planning and managing sustainable cities and urbanization processes.

C. Urban economy and municipal finance

65. During the reporting period, UN-Habitat continued to work with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs as a key partner in mainstreaming youth issues. They co-chaired the United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development. UN-Habitat advocated improved engagement of young people in the United Nations system, with a special focus on urban young people. In April 2013, the Chief Executives Board endorsed a United Nations system-wide action plan on youth as a framework to guide programming. UN-Habitat is one of the lead agencies in the area of employment and entrepreneurship, together with ILO and UNIDO. Other areas in which UN-Habitat is among the lead agencies include protection of rights, political inclusion and civic engagement. UN-Habitat is the co-lead, together with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, on questions relating to youth inclusion and rights.

66. UN-Habitat worked with the International Telecommunication Union to increase understanding and knowledge on youth issues, information and communications technology and urban governance. That cooperation gives more weight to UN-Habitat work to meet the provisions of paragraphs 182 and 184 of the Habitat Agenda.

67. UN-Habitat also worked with other United Nations agencies, under the coordination of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, to develop research activities on young people in the region, such as for the upcoming youth report for the region.

68. UN-Habitat and ILO collaborated on developing joint training for the grantees of their respective youth fund programmes. The training, attended by 30 project coordinators from Africa, was developed by bringing together the two entities' project management training manuals.

69. UN-Habitat one-stop youth resource centres are working with UNDP, UNIDO, ILO and UNFPA, under the "One United Nations" approach, in Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania to advance safe and empowering spaces for young people, with a focus on training and skill development. UN-Habitat worked in partnership with cities to develop the centre model in four capitals of East Africa. The model is now being replicated in the four countries in smaller cities and towns. UNIDO, ILO and UNFPA have responsibility for the entrepreneurship, employment and reproductive health thematic areas, respectively, at the centres.

70. UN-Habitat also worked with the United Nations Capital Development Fund on developing employment and entrepreneurship programmes in the least developed countries. Within this framework, UN-Habitat provided, and continues to provide, support to the programme in the Gambia with regard to training and building skills.

71. In addition, UN-Habitat worked closely with the Office of the Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth. Activities included the development of Economic and Social Council global and youth summits, the promotion of youth rights through publications and forums and advocacy for young people in post-conflict situations.

72. Lastly, UN-Habitat sponsored, in partnership with UNDP, an African youth conference on the post-2015 development agenda, which was focused on putting young people at the heart of regional development. It was the only meeting held

specifically engaging young people in Africa, young people being a principal target of the post-2015 development agenda. The conference ended with the adoption of the African Youth Declaration on the Post-2015 Agenda, a call to action to the global community to ensure that African young people are reflected in the sustainable development goals.

D. Urban basic services

73. UN-Habitat cooperated with UNEP in the area of urban basic services. Participants attending the first Global Wastewater Initiative Partnership Forum, held in Montego Bay, Jamaica, on 4 October 2013, nominated UN-Habitat and UNEP to co-chair the Initiative, a multi-stakeholder platform comprising United Nations agencies, international organizations, Governments, scientists and the private sector. It is a voluntary network of stakeholders aimed at facilitating coordinated action to tackle the wastewater challenge and to promote the wastewater agenda by sharing information, tools, lessons learned and good practice, including environmentally sound technologies. The Forum, held back to back with the second Global Conference on Land-Ocean Connections, made recommendations on the Initiative's operational structure, focus, terms of reference and tentative plan of action.

74. Under the United Nations Development Assistance Plan 2011-2015 in the United Republic of Tanzania, UN-Habitat partnered with UNICEF and the World Health Organization in the water, sanitation and hygiene cluster to provide technical assistance and develop capacity for improved coordination and management of water, sanitation and hygiene and water resources, both on the mainland and on Zanzibar. During the reporting period, a school water, sanitation and hygiene strategy and national water, sanitation and hygiene guidelines and toolkits were developed; financial and technical support was extended to water management committees; the capacity of water service providers was strengthened to improve service provision; a national sanitation and hygiene programme and costed action plan were developed; a national sanitation campaign was launched; and a national sanitation and hygiene management information system was created.

75. UN-Habitat continued to collaborate with UNOPS on the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council programme in Nepal, supported by the Global Sanitation Fund, to assist the Government in implementing a sanitation and hygiene master plan to meet the Millennium Development Goal and national targets on sanitation. The programme is working closely with the local authorities and other key stakeholders in six districts and six municipalities to build local capacity and expand sanitation coverage. As at September 2013, 392,133 people had benefited from improved sanitation, while another 389,721 people were living in open-defecation-free environments.

76. Sustainable transport was identified at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development as an important part of realizing the goal of ending extreme poverty. In collaboration with the Department for International Development of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the German Agency for International Cooperation and the Partnership on Sustainable Low Carbon Transport, UN-Habitat supported, and continues to support, the development of a results framework for sustainable transport.

77. Building on experience, in particular in Africa, UN-Habitat worked in collaboration with UNEP, the United Nations Centre for Regional Development and the World Bank in making the Environmentally Sustainable Transport Forum for Africa operational. It follows examples from Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean and will provide a platform for policy dialogue on urban mobility issues.

78. With support from the Global Environment Facility, UN-Habitat continued to implement a project on sustainable transport for East African cities. Working with leading international organizations such as the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy and the Transport Research Laboratory, the project focuses on the development of the first demonstration corridors for bus rapid transit systems in Addis Ababa, Kampala and Nairobi. The project links with plans for financial investment in sustainable transport systems.

79. For example, in Nairobi, the first demonstration bus rapid transit corridor forms part of a national urban transport improvement project supported by the World Bank. The project is providing a platform for wider policy dialogue to promote an integrated and people-centred approach to improving accessibility in cities. Efforts are under way to replicate the project in other African cities, including through collaboration with UNEP and other agencies through the Environmentally Sustainable Transport Forum for Africa.

80. With support from the Global Environment Facility, UN-Habitat continued to implement a project on promoting energy efficiency in buildings in East Africa, with the objective of mainstreaming energy efficiency measures into building codes, housing policies, building practices and housing finance. The project takes a comprehensive approach and focuses on data collection and benchmarking, building regulations, awareness-raising, financing and pilot demonstration projects. To date, several training sessions on energy efficiency measures in building design have been conducted for practitioners. The building codes in the region are under review to integrate resource-efficient measures. Awareness materials on green buildings have been developed and discussions with the finance sector are under way to establish green mortgages and other financing mechanisms. Cooperation is also under way with the private sector towards voluntary green building rating systems.

E. Risk reduction and rehabilitation

81. Increasing the resilience of cities to the impact of natural and human-caused crises is a key element of sustainable urban development. Through its City Resilience Profiling Programme, UN-Habitat developed, in cooperation with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, an integrated forward-planning, multi-stakeholder approach to measure and monitor urban resilience to all plausible hazards. Advocacy and capacity-building activities included a training programme on resilience, sustainability and local government in Latin America, piloted in Chile, which was expanded to Central America and Southern Africa.

82. UN-Habitat continued to play an active role in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, the global coordinating platform for all United Nations and international non-governmental organizations involved in humanitarian work. It provided capacity and input to humanitarian actors based on its comparative advantage in addressing the shelter and human settlements aspects of the global humanitarian agenda.

83. UN-Habitat continued, with other United Nations agencies, to advocate and support the need for a seamless transition from relief to development within the Inter-Agency Standing Committee. The Committee's transformative agenda has incorporated measures to ensure that transition.

84. UN-Habitat continued to play a leading role in supporting the Inter-Agency Standing Committee reference group for implementing the strategy on meeting humanitarian challenges in urban areas, which was established in 2010 in recognition of the fact that UN-Habitat alone could not meet all urban crisis response needs. The group has been instrumental in supporting the members of the Committee to develop and implement their own urban policies. Many agencies are now working in partnership with UN-Habitat on joint initiatives using UN-Habitat urban data.

85. During the reporting period, emergency response with regard to shelter damage assessment and humanitarian assistance in the area of shelter was provided in consultation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in post-disaster settings in Cuba, Pakistan, the Philippines and Samoa. Post-conflict activities in the shelter sector were undertaken in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan and the Syrian Arab Republic.

F. Research and capacity development

86. UN-Habitat collaborated with United Nations agencies through the Development Account during the reporting period. UN-Habitat and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific jointly began to implement a project on strengthening the capacity of policymakers in South-East Asia to promote policies and develop plans for improved wastewater treatment and reuse in urban and peri-urban areas. They continue to collaborate on increasing the resilience to climate change impacts of cities in small island developing States in the Pacific. A joint project on capacity development for cities in Asia and the Pacific to increase resilience to climate change impacts was completed in 2013.

87. UN-Habitat and the Economic Commission for Africa began collaboration in 2013 on strengthening the capacity of the States members of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region to address the land and property issues of internally displaced persons and refugees, with specific emphasis on women's land and property rights, in conjunction with the International Conference and the African Union.

88. UN-Habitat, in collaboration with UNDP and ILO, also continued to implement a project on enhancing the contribution of local authorities and their partners to achieving the Millennium Development Goals by building the capacity of local government training institutes. It is envisaged that the project will be completed in 2014.

89. In addition, UN-Habitat, in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, is implementing a project on building statistical capacity to monitor the Millennium Development Goal slum target in the

context of natural disasters and housing crises in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean.

G. Gender mainstreaming and empowerment of women

90. During the reporting period, UN-Habitat promoted gender equality and women's empowerment as essential components of sustainable urban development. In fulfilling its mandate to ensure that cities develop sustainably, with effective and inclusive services that benefit all residents, UN-Habitat strove, together with relevant United Nations system organizations and other partners, to improve women's rights, promote equal participation in decision-making and develop services that benefit women and men equally.

91. As indicated in paragraph 51, UNICEF, UN-Women and UN-Habitat continued to implement the Safe and Sustainable Cities for All joint programme. Several countries are reporting positive results such as increased involvement of women in trading (thus enhancing their livelihood development), improved access by women to financial facilities (using their land titles to borrow funds) and increased involvement of women in participatory planning. The implementation of the programme was facilitated by the UN-Habitat policy and plan for gender equality and empowerment of women in urban development and human settlements, which was developed jointly with UN-Women and formally adopted in December 2013.

92. UN-Habitat, in collaboration with the Government of Kenya and UN-Women, hosted a capacity-building workshop in Kisumu, Kenya, for 55 local authority personnel from Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania. The purpose was to highlight gender issues in the provision of urban basic services and to discuss how to ensure gender-responsive project design and formulation in the cities around the Lake Victoria basin, with emphasis on results-based management principles.

93. Lastly, UN-Habitat conducted various awareness-raising sessions on governance and gender mainstreaming. For example, under a memorandum of understanding with UN-Habitat, the Israeli Agency for International Development Cooperation conducted training on gender mainstreaming for participants from local authorities drawn from Eastern Europe, Africa and Latin America. Another workshop was conducted for the women deputy governors in Kenya to assist them in creating county gender action plans, in partnership with the Government.

V. Recommendations

94. In the light of the issues discussed above, Member States are called upon:

(a) To give appropriate consideration to the role of urbanization in sustainable development in their national development plans in order to ensure coordinated implementation of sectoral policies within cities and urban settlements in general;

(b) To formulate and implement urban planning policies that enhance economic productivity and equity, to implement economic empowerment programmes that create opportunities, with special reference to young people and

women, and to adopt innovative tools for generating additional resources for local authorities in addressing urban planning matters, including through land and property value sharing;

(c) To apply more systematically urban planning methods, including participatory processes, adapted to the needs of incremental urbanization standards and compact, better integrated and connected urban development patterns;

(d) To use planned city extension methodologies to guide the sustainable development of cities experiencing rapid urban growth, to prevent slum proliferation, enhance access to basic urban services, support inclusive housing, enhance job opportunities and create a safe and healthy living environment;

(e) To facilitate the inclusion of all relevant stakeholders, including local authorities, the private sector and non-governmental organizations, in the preparatory process for Habitat III at the national level, including in the preparation of Habitat III national reports.